

driving my child...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR HORGAN: ...across the city, and I think that is something we ought to seriously look at. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Horgan. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Madam President, colleagues, I tell you, I'm a little bit surprised by the discussion that we're having on this bill. Two years ago I had a number of calls from constituents that were concerned because of an incident that occurred in my neighboring district in Papillion where we had a bus driver sexually molest one of the riders of his bus. And the details were that, obviously, this was a bus driver, it wasn't a certified teacher, but the individual was still an employee of that school district and people were outraged that this person with a past criminal background could have been hired. They said, how could this happen and could this happen in our school districts? And the school boards say, well, we didn't know, we didn't have any idea that this individual had a past like this. I mean, it's tough to find a school bus driver, the guy had his license. He looked like a normal sort of individual and we would have liked to have checked maybe his background but we could not. We could not check his background because of the laws in the State of Nebraska. So, at that time, I believe Senator Goodrich introduced a bill to change it that next year and I got some calls from constituents after that and I thought, well, yeah, this bill is going to pass right through and I've been waiting for it a couple of years here to finally get a chance to vote on the bill. And now when the bill has actually come up, I guess I'm surprised by the discussion and opposition that the bill has encountered. I don't understand why the people are so upset about this piece of legislation because it does not restrict a school board's ability. Let's say an individual has committed sexual assault on a child and that school board says, well, you know he has changed, he is a good individual now and he has received therapy and he is not going to commit that crime again, then that school board can hire that individual. Or let's say a teacher was involved in something like that. The board, assuming that he still had his certification license, he could continue to teach if the board so made that decision. But what the school boards are concerned about is what the Papillion school district is encountering